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Advocates, Witnesses Selected for First USD Forum ... The Subject is Growth

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NEWS RELEASE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



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ADVOCATES, WITNESSES SELECTED
FOR FIRST USD FORUM . . .

. . . THE SUBJECT IS GROWTH

University of San Diego Law Professors Richard "Corky" ^{Each} Wharton and Hugh Friedman will be pitted against ~~one~~ another in the first ever USD Forum, set for 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 at the Lyceum Theatre.

Wharton and Friedman, in their role as advocates, will debate growth control in the San Diego region.

Format of the 90-minute Forum will be similar to public television's "The Advocates," ^{in which} whereby recognized experts--on both sides of the issue--are called to the "witness stand." ^{to give testimony.}

Wharton, who will argue for growth controls, will call as witnesses:

- Lynn Benn, who chairs the county Community Planning Committee and the Sierra Club land use task force. She is also a member of Mayor O'Connor's new growth management task force.

- Dwight Worden, an attorney who has represented a number of anti-growth and slow-growth clients throughout the county. He represented the losing side in the lawsuit opposing creation of North City West. Worden is a former Del Mar city attorney.

Friedman, who will represent ^{the} pro-growth ^{argument,} ~~factions~~ will call to testify:

- Former San Diego Councilman Fred Schnaubelt, who is now in real estate development.

- Kim Kilkenny, a lobbyist for the San Diego Construction Industry Federation.

To frame the debate, Professors Friedman and Wharton will ask the question:

Should all local governments in the San Diego Region adopt a coordinated Growth Management Plan which actively limits growth?

Much of the debate will be based on extensive research by Professor Wharton and Professor Dirk Yandell ^{of USD's} School of Business.

A special study guide reflecting their research will be made available to the public ^{after the debate.}

"The Forum, and its accompanying research, is intended to provide as much information as possible so there can then be informed debate in the community," said Yandell, an assistant professor of economics.

Wharton, who has been active in many environmental causes, said he is hopeful that the Forum will act as a catalyst for change. "The best outcome (of the Forum) we can hope for is that the cities and county government will work together," the law professor said.

Sheldon Krantz, dean of USD's School of Law, will moderate the program.

Professionals from the Old Globe and San Diego Repertory theaters have been retained for set design and production.

The USD Forum is free and open to the public. Because of limited seating, tickets must be obtained for admission.

After the May 13 program, USD plans to produce at least one Forum per semester. The USD Forum committee, established by USD President Author E. Hughes last summer to select Forum topics and plan formats, is chaired by Dean Krantz.

Three other deans sit on the committee: Dr. Ray Brandes, School of Graduate and Continuing Education; Dr. James Burns, School of Business Administration; and Dr. Edward DeRoche, School of Education.

For more information, please contact John Nunes at 260-4682.

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